

includes another organization as a lower-tier participant (subcontract) who will be responsible for a smaller portion of the overall project. If approved for funding, DOE may provide the total project funds to the lead organization who will provide funding to the other participant via a subcontract arrangement. The application should clearly describe the role to be played by each organization, specify the managerial arrangements and explain the advantages of the multi-organizational effort.

(2) Alternatively, multiple private sector or academic organizations who intend to propose collaborative or joint research projects may each prepare a portion of the application, then combine each portion into a single, integrated scientific application. Separate Face Pages and Budget Pages must be included for each organization participating in the collaborative project. The joint application must be submitted to DOE as one package. If approved for funding, DOE will award a separate grant to each collaborating organization.

(3) Private sector or academic applicants who wish to form a collaborative project with a DOE FFRDC may not include the DOE FFRDC in their application as a lower-tier participant (subcontract). Rather, each collaborator may prepare a portion of the proposal, then combine each portion into a single, integrated scientific proposal. The private sector or academic organization must include a Face Page and Budget Pages for their portion of the project. The FFRDC must include separate Budget Pages for their portion of the project. The joint proposal must be submitted to DOE as one package. If approved for funding, DOE will award a grant to the private sector or academic organization. The FFRDC will be funded, through existing DOE contracts, from funds specifically intended for new FFRDC projects. DOE FFRDCs will not compete for funding already intended for private sector or academic organizations. Other Federal laboratories who wish to form collaborative projects may also follow guidelines outlined in this section.

Further information on the NSTX program at PPPL may be found at <http://www-local.pppl.gov/nstxhome/index.shtml>, and detailed information on the NSTX research activities may be found in the NSTX Meeting Information Home Page: <http://www-local.pppl.gov/nstxhome/nstx/meetings/>

It is anticipated that up to \$3 million in FY 1999 will be available for new grants from applications received in

response to this Notice. The number of awards and range of funding will depend on the number of applications received and selected for award. Future year funding is anticipated to be greater but will depend on the nature of the applications, suitable experimental progress and the availability of funds. Because of the total amount of anticipated available funding and because of the intent to have a broadly based program, experimental applications with a requirement in any twelve-month period in excess of \$1.5 million are unlikely to be funded. The cost-effectiveness of the application will be considered when comparing applications with differing funding requirements.

To facilitate the review, the application must be limited to a maximum of twenty (20) pages (including text and figures) plus not more than one page each of biographical information and publications of the principal investigator, plus any additional forms required as a part of a standard grant application. Appendices including publications are acceptable; however, they must not be used as a method of avoiding the page limit. Reviewers are not required to read such appendices.

An original and seven copies of each application must be submitted. Applications will be subjected to formal merit review and will be evaluated against the following criteria, which are listed in descending order of importance as set forth in 10 CFR part 605:

1. Scientific and/or technical merit of the project;
2. Appropriateness of the proposed method or approach;
3. Competency of the applicant's personnel and adequacy of the proposed resources; and
4. Reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget.

The evaluation will include program policy factors such as the relevance and responsiveness of the proposed research to the terms of the announcement and the agency's programmatic needs, specifically including the stated needs of the NSTX research program. General information about development and submission of applications, eligibility, limitations, evaluations and selection processes, and other policies and procedures may be found in the Application Guide for the Office of Energy Research Financial Assistance Program and 10 CFR part 605. Electronic access to the Application Guide is possible via the Internet using the following Web site address: <http://www.er.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>

External peer reviewers are selected with regard to both their scientific expertise and the absence of conflict-of-interest issues. Non-federal reviewers may be used, and submission of an application constitutes agreement that this is acceptable to the investigator(s) and the submitting institution.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this program is 81.049, and the solicitation control number is ERFAP 10 CFR part 605.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on January 23, 1998.

John Rodney Clark,

Associate Director for Resource Management, Office of Energy Research.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-187-008]

Arkansas Western Pipeline Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

January 27, 1998.

Take notice that on January 22, 1998, Arkansas Western Pipeline Company (AWP) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, repaginated and edited tariff sheets that were effective December 8, 1997.

AWP states that the filing sets forth the corrections to AWP's tariff sheets that are necessary to comply with FERC's January 7, 1998 Letter Order in Docket No. RP97-187-007.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such petitions or protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and available for public inspection.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

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